



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716)843-5814*

---

*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# PRESS RELEASE

May 22, 2003

**RE: UNITED STATES v. TAMESHWAR PERSUAD**

United States Attorney Michael a. Battle announced today a surrender on a three-count Indictment which was hand up on October 8, 1992, charging Tamesward Persuad, age 38, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, with bank fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 carrying a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment, a fine of \$1,000,000.00, or both. The defendant had been ordered extradited by the Canadian Department of Justice on March 14, 2002, and thereafter appeal the Order of Extradition. On May 22, 2003, the defendant withdrew his appeal and surrendered to the FBI. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (**Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)**).

Assistant U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross stated that the Indictment charges the defendant with opening various bank

accounts at United States banks and then depositing checks into those accounts from other banks which accounts were closed, had insufficient funds or were non-existent.

Trini E. Ross, Assistant United States Attorney, handled the extradition of the defendant and will handle the trial of the case.